House Study Bill 608 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE

ON JUDICIARY BILL BY

CHAIRPERSON NUNN)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act prohibiting the mistreatment of animals other than
- 2 livestock and wild animals, providing for the rescue of
- 3 animals by local law enforcement agencies, providing for
- 4 criminal offenses and court orders, and including penalties.
- 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

- 1 Section 1. Section 717B.1, Code 2018, is amended by adding
- 2 the following new subsections:
- NEW SUBSECTION. 2A. "Animal control officer" means a person
- 4 employed, contracted, or appointed by a local authority to
- 5 assist in the enforcement of chapter 162, this chapter, or any
- 6 other law or ordinance relating to the licensing of animals,
- 7 control of animals, or the seizure and impoundment of animals.
- 8 NEW SUBSECTION. 3A. a. "Convicted" means found guilty of,
- 9 pleads guilty to, or is sentenced or adjudicated delinquent
- 10 for an act which is an indictable offense in this state or in
- 11 another state, including but not limited to a juvenile who has
- 12 been adjudicated delinquent, whether or not the juvenile court
- 13 records have been sealed under section 232.150, and a person
- 14 who has received a deferred sentence or a deferred judgment or
- 15 has been acquitted by reason of insanity.
- 16 b. "Convicted" includes the conviction of a juvenile
- 17 prosecuted as an adult. "Convicted" also includes a conviction
- 18 for an attempt or conspiracy to commit an offense.
- 19 c. "Convicted" does not mean a plea, sentence, adjudication,
- 20 deferred sentence, or deferred judgment which has been reversed
- 21 or otherwise set aside.
- 22 NEW SUBSECTION. 4A. "Injury" means an impairment to an
- 23 animal's health or functions, including physical damage or harm
- 24 to an animal's muscle, tissue, organs, bones, hide, or skin,
- 25 that causes the animal to suffer pain.
- 26 NEW SUBSECTION. 8A. "Serious injury" means an injury that
- 27 creates a substantial risk of death or that causes protracted
- 28 disfigurement, protracted impairment of health, or protracted
- 29 loss or impairment of the function of a limb or organ.
- 30 Sec. 2. Section 717B.1, subsection 9, Code 2018, is amended
- 31 to read as follows:
- 32 9. "Threatened animal" means an animal that is abused as
- 33 provided suffers mistreatment due to animal abuse as described
- 34 in section 717B.2, neglected animal neglect as provided
- 35 described in section 717B.3, or tortured animal torture as

```
H.F. ____
```

- 1 provided described in section 717B.3A, animal abandonment
- 2 as described in section 717B.3B, or animal endangerment as
- 3 described in section 717B.3C.
- 4 Sec. 3. Section 717B.2, Code 2018, is amended to read as
- 5 follows:
- 6 717B.2 Animal abuse penalties.
- A person is guilty of animal abuse if the person
- 8 intentionally injures, maims, disfigures, or destroys an animal
- 9 owned by another person, in any manner, including intentionally
- 10 poisoning the animal commits animal abuse when the person
- 11 knowingly or recklessly causes injury, serious injury, or death
- 12 to an animal by force, violence, or poisoning. A person guilty
- 13 of animal abuse is guilty of an aggravated misdemeanor.
- 2. This section shall not apply to conduct engaged in by any
- 15 of the following:
- 16 1. A person acting with the consent of the person owning
- 17 the animal, unless the action constitutes animal neglect as
- 18 provided in section 717B.3.
- 19 2. a. A person acting to carry out an order issued by a
- 20 court.
- 21 3. b. A licensed veterinarian practicing veterinary
- 22 medicine as provided in chapter 169.
- 23 $\frac{4}{100}$ c. A person acting in order to carry out another
- 24 provision of law which allows the conduct.
- 25 $\frac{5}{100}$ d. A person taking, hunting, trapping, or fishing for a
- 26 wild animal as provided in chapter 481A.
- 27 6. e. A person acting to protect the person's property from
- 28 a wild animal as defined in section 481A.1.
- 29 7. f. A person acting to protect a person from injury or
- 30 death caused by a wild animal as defined in section 481A.1.
- 31 8. g. A person reasonably acting reasonably to protect the
- 32 person's property from damage caused by an unconfined animal.
- 33 9. h. A person reasonably acting reasonably to protect a
- 34 person from injury or death caused by an unconfined animal.
- 35 i. A local authority reasonably acting reasonably to

- 1 destroy an animal, if at the time of the destruction, the owner
- 2 of the animal is absent or unable to care for the animal, and
- 3 the animal is permanently distressed by disease or injury to a
- 4 degree that would result in severe and prolonged suffering.
- 5 $\frac{11.}{j}$. A research facility, as defined in section 162.2,
- 6 provided that the research facility performs functions within
- 7 the scope of accepted practices and disciplines associated with
- 8 the research facility.
- 9 3. A person who commits animal abuse that does not cause
- 10 serious injury or death to an animal is guilty of a serious
- ll misdemeanor.
- 12 4. A person who commits animal abuse that causes serious
- 13 injury or death to an animal is guilty of an aggravated
- 14 misdemeanor.
- 15 5. Notwithstanding subsection 4, a person who commits
- 16 animal abuse that causes serious injury or death to an animal
- 17 is guilty of a class "D" felony if the person has previously
- 18 been convicted of committing animal abuse pursuant to this
- 19 section, animal neglect pursuant to section 717B.3, animal
- 20 torture pursuant to section 717B.3A, animal abandonment
- 21 pursuant to section 717B.3B, animal endangerment pursuant
- 22 to section 717B.3C, injury to or interference with a police
- 23 service dog pursuant to section 717B.9, bestiality pursuant to
- 24 section 717C.1, or an act involving a contest event prohibited
- 25 in section 717D.2.
- Sec. 4. Section 717B.3, Code 2018, is amended to read as
- 27 follows:
- 717B.3 Animal neglect penalties.
- 29 1. A person who impounds or commits animal neglect when
- 30 the person owns or has custody of an animal, confines, in any
- 31 place, an that animal, is guilty of animal neglect if the
- 32 person does any of the following:
- 33 a. Fails and fails to supply the animal during confinement
- 34 with a sufficient quantity of food or water. reasonably provide
- 35 the animal with any of the following:

- 2 a. Access to food in an amount and quality sufficient to 2 satisfy the animal's basic nutrition level.
- 3 b. Fails to provide a confined dog or cat with adequate
- 4 shelter. Access to a supply of potable water in an amount
- 5 sufficient to satisfy the animal's basic hydration level.
- 6 Access to snow or ice does not satisfy this requirement.
- 7 c. Tortures, deprives of necessary sustenance, mutilates,
- 8 beats, or kills an animal by any means which causes unjustified
- 9 pain, distress, or suffering. Sanitary conditions free from
- 10 excessive animal waste or the overcrowding of animals.
- 11 d. Ventilated shelter sufficient to provide adequate
- 12 protection from the elements and weather conditions suitable
- 13 for the age, species, and physical condition of the animal
- 14 so as to maintain the animal in a state of good health. The
- 15 shelter must protect the animal from wind, rain, snow, or sun
- 16 and have adequate bedding to provide protection against cold
- 17 and dampness. A shelter may include a residence, garage, barn,
- 18 shed, or doghouse.
- 19 e. Grooming, to the extent reasonably necessary to prevent
- 20 adverse health effects or suffering.
- 21 f. Veterinary care deemed necessary by a reasonably
- 22 prudent person to relieve an animal's distress from any of the
- 23 following:
- 24 (1) A condition caused by failing to provide for the
- 25 animal's welfare as described in paragraphs a through f.
- 26 (2) An injury or illness suffered by the animal causing the
- 27 animal to suffer prolonged pain and suffering.
- 28 2. This section does not apply to a research facility, as
- 29 defined in section 162.2, provided that the research facility
- 30 performs functions within the scope of accepted practices and
- 31 disciplines associated with the research facility.
- A person who negligently or intentionally commits the
- 33 offense of animal neglect that does not cause injury or death
- 34 to an animal is guilty of a simple misdemeanor. A person who
- 35 intentionally commits the offense of animal neglect which

- 1 results in serious injury to or the death of an animal is
- 2 guilty of a serious misdemeanor.
- 3 4. A person who commits animal neglect that causes injury
- 4 other than serious injury or death to an animal is guilty of a
- 5 serious misdemeanor.
- 6 5. A person who commits animal neglect which causes serious
- 7 injury or death to an animal is guilty of an aggravated
- 8 misdemeanor.
- 9 6. Notwithstanding subsection 5, a person who commits
- 10 animal neglect which causes serious injury or death to an
- ll animal is guilty of a class "D" felony if the person has been
- 12 previously convicted of animal abuse pursuant to section
- 13 717B.2, animal neglect pursuant to this section, animal torture
- 14 pursuant to section 717B.3A, animal abandonment pursuant to
- 15 section 717B.3B, animal endangerment pursuant to section
- 16 717B.3C, injury to or interference with a police service dog
- 17 pursuant to section 717B.9, bestiality pursuant to section
- 18 717C.1, or an act involving a contest event prohibited in
- 19 section 717D.2.
- Sec. 5. Section 717B.3A, Code 2018, is amended to read as
- 21 follows:
- 22 717B.3A Animal torture penalties.
- 23 1. A person is guilty of animal torture, regardless of
- 24 whether the person is the owner of the animal, if when the
- 25 person inflicts upon the animal severe and prolonged or
- 26 repeated physical pain with a depraved or sadistic intent to
- 27 cause that results in the animal's prolonged suffering and
- 28 serious injury or death.
- 29 2. This section shall not apply to conduct engaged in by any
- 30 of the following:
- 31 a. A person acting to carry out an order issued by a court.
- 32 b. A licensed veterinarian practicing veterinary medicine as
- 33 provided in chapter 169.
- 34 c. A person carrying out a practice that is consistent with
- 35 animal husbandry practices.

da/rn

- 1 d. A person acting in order to carry out another provision 2 of law which allows the conduct.
- 3 e. A person taking, hunting, trapping, or fishing for a wild 4 animal as provided in chapter 481A.
- 5 f. A person acting to protect the person's property from a 6 wild animal as defined in section 481A.1.
- 7 g. A person acting to protect a person from injury or death 8 caused by a wild animal as defined in section 481A.1.
- 9 h. A person reasonably acting reasonably to protect the 10 person's property from damage caused by an unconfined animal.
- 11 *i.* A person $\frac{\text{reasonably}}{\text{reasonably}}$ acting $\frac{\text{reasonably}}{\text{reasonably}}$ to protect a person 12 from injury or death caused by an unconfined animal.
- 13 j. A local authority reasonably acting reasonably to destroy 14 an animal, if at the time of the destruction, the owner of the
- 15 animal is absent or unable to care for the animal, and the
- 16 animal is permanently distressed by disease or injury to a
- 17 degree that would result in severe and prolonged suffering.
- 18 k. A research facility, as defined in section 162.2,
- 19 provided that the research facility performs functions within
- 20 the scope of accepted practices and disciplines associated with
- 21 the research facility.
- 22 3. a. The following shall apply to a person who commits
- 23 animal torture:
- 24 (1) For the first conviction, the person is guilty of an
- 25 aggravated misdemeanor. The sentencing order shall provide
- 26 that the person submit to psychological evaluation and
- 27 treatment according to terms required by the court. The costs
- 28 of the evaluation and treatment shall be paid by the person.
- 29 In addition, the sentencing order shall provide that the person
- 30 complete a community work requirement, which may include a work
- 31 requirement performed at an animal shelter or pound, as defined
- 32 in section 162.2, according to terms required by the court.
- 33 (2) For a second or subsequent conviction, the person is
- 34 guilty of a class "D" felony. The sentencing order shall
- 35 provide that the person submit to psychological evaluation and

- 1 treatment according to terms required by the court. The costs
- 2 of the psychological evaluation and treatment shall be paid by
- 3 the person.
- 4 b. The juvenile court shall have exclusive original
- 5 jurisdiction in a proceeding concerning a child who is alleged
- 6 to have committed animal torture, in the manner provided in
- 7 section 232.8. The juvenile court shall not waive jurisdiction
- 8 in a proceeding concerning an offense alleged to have been
- 9 committed by a child under the age of seventeen.
- 10 4. A person who commits animal torture is guilty of a class
- 11 "D" felony.
- 12 5. Notwithstanding subsection 4, a person who commits
- 13 animal torture is guilty of a class "C" felony if the person
- 14 has previously been convicted of committing animal abuse
- 15 pursuant to section 717B.2, animal neglect pursuant to section
- 16 717B.3, animal torture pursuant to this section, animal
- 17 abandonment pursuant to section 717B.3B, animal endangerment
- 18 pursuant to section 717B.3C, injury to or interference with
- 19 a police service dog pursuant to section 717B.9, bestiality
- 20 pursuant to section 717C.1, or an act involving a contest event
- 21 prohibited in section 717D.2.
- 22 Sec. 6. NEW SECTION. 717B.3B Animal abandonment —
- 23 penalties.
- 1. A person commits animal abandonment by knowingly or
- 25 recklessly relinquishing custody of an animal at a location in
- 26 which the person does not hold a legal or equitable interest if
- 27 the person does not do any of the following:
- 28 a. Legally transfer the animal to another person.
- 29 b. Make reasonable arrangements for the transfer of custody
- 30 of the animal to a person who agrees to assume custody of the
- 31 animal.
- 32 c. Make other reasonable arrangements for the care of the
- 33 animal in a manner that would not constitute animal neglect
- 34 under section 717B.3.
- 35 2. A person who commits animal abandonment that does not

- 1 cause injury or death to an animal is guilty of a simple 2 misdemeanor.
- 3. A person who commits animal abandonment that causes
- 4 injury other than serious injury or death to an animal is
- 5 guilty of a serious misdemeanor.
- 6 4. A person who commits animal abandonment that causes
- 7 serious injury or death to an animal is guilty of an aggravated
- 8 misdemeanor.
- 9 5. Notwithstanding subsection 4, a person who commits
- 10 animal abandonment that causes serious injury or death to
- ll an animal is quilty of a class "D" felony if the person has
- 12 previously been convicted of committing animal abandonment
- 13 pursuant to this section, animal abuse pursuant to section
- 14 717B.2, animal neglect pursuant to section 717B.3, animal
- 15 torture pursuant to section 717B.3A, animal endangerment
- 16 pursuant to section 717B.3C, injury to or interference with
- 17 a police service dog pursuant to section 717B.9, bestiality
- 18 pursuant to section 717C.1, or an act involving a contest event
- 19 prohibited in section 717D.2.
- 20 Sec. 7. NEW SECTION. 717B.3C Animal endangerment -
- 21 penalties.
- 22 1. A person commits animal endangerment when the person
- 23 confines an animal in a stationary motor vehicle in a manner
- 24 that endangers the health or life of the animal by exposing the
- 25 animal to a prolonged period of extreme interior temperature or
- 26 a long period without adequate ventilation.
- 27 2. A person who commits animal endangerment that does
- 28 not cause injury or death to an animal is guilty of a simple
- 29 misdemeanor.
- 30 3. A person who commits animal endangerment that causes
- 31 injury other than serious injury or death to an animal is
- 32 guilty of a serious misdemeanor.
- 33 4. A person who commits animal endangerment that causes
- 34 serious injury or death to an animal is guilty of an aggravated
- 35 misdemeanor.

- 1 5. Notwithstanding subsection 4, a person who commits
- 2 animal endangerment that causes serious injury to an animal
- 3 is guilty of a class "D" felony if the person has previously
- 4 been convicted of committing animal endangerment pursuant to
- 5 this section, animal abuse pursuant to section 717B.2, animal
- 6 neglect pursuant to section 717B.3, animal torture pursuant
- 7 to section 717B.3A, animal abandonment pursuant to section
- 8 717B.3B, injury to or interference with a police service dog
- 9 pursuant to section 717B.9, bestiality pursuant to section
- 10 717C.1, or an act involving a contest event prohibited in
- 11 section 717D.2.
- 12 Sec. 8. NEW SECTION. 717B.3D Animal mistreatment court
- 13 order evaluation and treatment.
- 14 l. At the time of a person's conviction for a public
- 15 offense committed under this chapter, a court may enter an
- 16 order requiring the person to undergo a psychological or
- 17 psychiatric evaluation and to undergo any treatment that the
- 18 court determines to be appropriate after due consideration of
- 19 the evaluation. However, the court shall enter such an order
- 20 if the convicted person is any of the following:
- 21 a. A juvenile.
- 22 b. An adult committing animal abuse pursuant to section
- 23 717B.2, animal neglect punishable as an aggravated misdemeanor
- 24 or class "D" felony pursuant to section 717B.3, animal torture
- 25 pursuant to section 717B.3A, animal abandonment pursuant to
- 26 section 717B.3B, or animal endangerment pursuant to section
- 27 717B.3C.
- 28 2. The costs of undergoing a psychological or psychiatric
- 29 evaluation and undergoing any treatment ordered by the court
- 30 shall be borne by the convicted person, unless the person is
- 31 a juvenile.
- 32 3. An order made under this section is in addition to any
- 33 other order or sentence of the court.
- 34 4. Any violation of the court order shall be punished as
- 35 contempt of court pursuant to chapter 665.

- 1 Sec. 9. <u>NEW SECTION</u>. 717B.3E Animal mistreatment 2 sentencing order prohibitions.
- 3 1. At the time of a person's sentencing for a public offense
- 4 committed under this chapter, a court may prohibit the person
- 5 from owning or obtaining custody of an animal or residing in
- 6 the same dwelling where an animal is kept. The period of the
- 7 prohibition shall be not less than three years.
- Notwithstanding subsection 1, the court shall enter such
- 9 an order if the convicted person has committed animal abuse
- 10 punishable as an aggravated misdemeanor or class "D" felony
- 11 pursuant to section 717B.2, animal neglect punishable as an
- 12 aggravated misdemeanor or class "D" felony pursuant to section
- 13 717B.3, animal torture pursuant to section 717B.3A, animal
- 14 abandonment punishable as an aggravated misdemeanor or class
- 15 "D" felony pursuant to section 717B.3B, or animal endangerment
- 16 punishable as an aggravated misdemeanor or class "D" felony
- 17 pursuant to section 717B.3C. The period of such prohibition
- 18 shall be not less than ten years.
- 19 3. The duration of a prohibition described in this
- 20 section commences on the date that the person is placed on
- 21 probation, released on parole or work release, or released from
- 22 incarceration or from placement in a juvenile facility.
- 23 4. An order made pursuant to this section is in addition to
- 24 any other order or sentence of the court.
- 25 5. Any violation of the court order described in this
- 26 section is a public offense and shall be punished as a simple
- 27 misdemeanor.
- 28 Sec. 10. NEW SECTION. 717B.5A Rescue motor vehicles.
- 29 1. A law enforcement officer or animal control officer may
- 30 rescue an animal from a stationary motor vehicle, including
- 31 through the use of forced entrance, if the law enforcement
- 32 officer or animal control officer reasonably believes that the
- 33 animal may be suffering distress due to exposure to extreme
- 34 interior temperature or a lack of adequate ventilation. The
- 35 law enforcement officer's or animal control officer's action

- 1 is justified regardless of whether the law enforcement officer
- 2 or animal control officer observed indications of distress
- 3 or whether the person could be charged with or convicted of
- 4 committing a public offense.
- 5 2. The law enforcement officer or animal control officer
- 6 shall provide written notice of the rescue to the animal's
- 7 responsible party. This requirement is satisfied by placing
- 8 the notice in a conspicuous place located within the motor
- 9 vehicle. The notice must state where the rescued animal may
- 10 be claimed.
- 11 3. The local authority shall provide for the maintenance
- 12 of the rescued animal as if it were a threatened animal under
- 13 section 717B.5. However, a dispositional proceeding under
- 14 section 717B.4 is not required if within ten days after the
- 15 date of the animal's rescue the responsible party claims the
- 16 animal from the local authority. In order to claim the animal,
- 17 the responsible party must reimburse the local authority for
- 18 all reasonable costs that accrued from rescuing and maintaining
- 19 the animal.
- 20 Sec. 11. IMPLEMENTATION OF ACT. Section 25B.2, subsection
- 21 3, shall not apply to this Act.
- 22 Sec. 12. REPEAL. Section 717B.8, Code 2018, is repealed.
- 23 EXPLANATION
- 24 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
- 25 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.
- 26 GENERAL. This bill amends Code chapter 717B prohibiting
- 27 the mistreatment of certain animals, including dogs and cats,
- 28 but excluding other animals such as livestock (Code chapter
- 29 717); game, fur-bearing animals, fish, reptiles, or amphibians
- 30 (Code chapter 481A), unless such animal is owned, confined,
- 31 or controlled by a person; or a nongame animal declared to be
- 32 a nuisance by the natural resource commission (Code section
- 33 481A.42).
- 34 The bill amends three different criminal offenses in Code
- 35 chapter 717B, including animal abuse (Code section 717B.2),

```
H.F.
```

- 1 animal neglect (Code section 717B.3), and animal torture (Code
- 2 section 717B.3A). The bill creates two new criminal offenses
- 3 including animal abandonment (new Code section 717B.3B) and
- 4 animal endangerment (new Code section 717B.3C). Under the
- 5 bill, each of the offenses includes an enhanced penalty that
- 6 applies to a convicted person who has previously committed any
- 7 of the named offenses; committed injury or interference with a
- 8 police service dog (Code section 717B.9); committed bestiality
- 9 (Code section 717C.1); or committed an offense involving an
- 10 animal contest (Code section 717D.4).
- 11 TYPES OF CRIMINAL OFFENSES ABUSE. Animal abuse involves
- 12 intentionally injuring an animal by violence or poisoning. The
- 13 bill replaces the intent element with that of acting knowingly
- 14 or recklessly. It also removes a provision that exempted
- 15 a person who acted with the consent of the animal's owner.
- 16 The bill reduces the penalty from an aggravated to a serious
- 17 misdemeanor for committing animal abuse that does not cause
- 18 an animal serious injury or death and retains the penalty of
- 19 aggravated misdemeanor for committing animal abuse that causes
- 20 an animal serious injury or death. The bill provides that the
- 21 aggravated misdemeanor may be enhanced to a class "D" felony
- 22 if the person was previously convicted of one of the named
- 23 offenses.
- 24 TYPES OF CRIMINAL OFFENSES NEGLECT. Animal neglect
- 25 involves failing to provide an animal with adequate food,
- 26 water, or shelter, or torturing the animal. The bill rewrites
- 27 these requirements by requiring that an animal be furnished
- 28 with adequate supplies of nutritional food, access to potable
- 29 water, adequate sanitary conditions, ventilated shelter
- 30 sufficient to provide the animal with protection from extreme
- 31 weather conditions, and necessary veterinary care. The bill
- 32 eliminates the torture prohibition. The bill retains the
- 33 criminal penalty which is a simple misdemeanor. However, the
- 34 penalty is increased to a serious misdemeanor if the animal
- 35 suffers an injury and to an aggravated misdemeanor if the

- 1 animal suffers a serious injury or death. In a case where
- 2 the animal suffers a serious injury or death, the aggravated
- 3 misdemeanor may be enhanced to a class "D" felony if the person
- 4 was previously convicted of one of the named offenses.
- 5 TYPES OF CRIMINAL OFFENSES TORTURE. Animal torture
- 6 involves inflicting upon an animal severe physical pain with
- 7 depraved or sadistic intent to cause prolonged suffering or
- 8 death. The bill eliminates the element of intent and requires
- 9 that the act involve prolonged or repeated physical pain that
- 10 results in prolonged suffering and serious injury or death.
- 11 The bill replaces the current penalties for animal torture. A
- 12 person is no longer guilty of an aggravated misdemeanor for
- 13 the first offense and a class "D" felony for a subsequent
- 14 offense. Instead, a person is guilty of a class "D" felony,
- 15 which is enhanced to a class "C" felony if the person was
- 16 previously convicted of one of the named offenses. The bill
- 17 also eliminates a requirement that a person convicted of animal
- 18 torture must submit to psychological evaluation and treatment.
- 19 TYPES OF CRIMINAL OFFENSES ABANDONMENT. Animal
- 20 abandonment involves knowingly or recklessly relinquishing
- 21 custody of an animal at a location in which the person does
- 22 not hold a legal or equitable interest. There are exceptions
- 23 in cases of transferring ownership or custody or making
- 24 arrangements for the care of the animal. The criminal penalty
- 25 is a simple misdemeanor. However, the penalty is increased to
- 26 a serious misdemeanor if the animal suffers an injury and to an
- 27 aggravated misdemeanor if the animal suffers a serious injury
- 28 or death. In a case where the animal suffers a serious injury
- 29 or death, the aggravated misdemeanor may be enhanced to a class
- 30 $^{\circ}\text{D}''$ felony if the person was previously convicted of one of the
- 31 named offenses.
- 32 TYPES OF CRIMINAL OFFENSES ENDANGERMENT. Animal
- 33 endangerment involves confining an animal in a stationary motor
- 34 vehicle in a manner that exposes the animal to a prolonged
- 35 period of extreme interior temperature or a long period

- 1 without adequate ventilation. The criminal penalty is a
- 2 simple misdemeanor. However, the penalty is increased to a
- 3 serious misdemeanor if the animal suffers an injury and to an
- 4 aggravated misdemeanor if the animal suffers a serious injury
- 5 or death. In a case where the animal suffers a serious injury
- 6 or death, the aggravated misdemeanor may be enhanced to a class
- 7 "D" felony if the person was previously convicted of one of the
- 8 named offenses.
- 9 APPLICABLE CRIMINAL PENALTIES. The criminal penalties are
- 10 as follows: (1) simple misdemeanor, confinement for no more
- 11 than 30 days or a fine of at least \$65 but not more than \$625 or
- 12 by both; (2) serious misdemeanor, confinement for no more than
- 13 one year and a fine of at least \$315 but not more than \$1,875;
- 14 (3) aggravated misdemeanor, confinement for no more than two
- 15 years and a fine of at least \$625 but not more than \$6,250; (4)
- 16 class "D" felony, confinement for no more than five years and a
- 17 fine of at least \$750 but not more than \$7,500; and (5) class
- 18 "C" felony, confinement for no more than 10 years and a fine of
- 19 at least \$1,000 but not more than \$10,000.
- 20 COURT ORDERS. At the time of conviction for committing
- 21 any of the offenses, a person may be subject to a court order
- 22 requiring a psychological or psychiatric evaluation and
- 23 treatment. The person may also be subject to a court order
- 24 prohibiting the person from owning, possessing, or living with
- 25 an animal. In each case, the court's decision to issue an
- 26 order is discretionary except under certain conditions. A
- 27 court order requiring an evaluation and treatment is mandatory
- 28 for juveniles. That order and the order prohibiting contact
- 29 with animals is also mandatory if the offense is punishable as
- 30 an aggravated misdemeanor or felony. For a discretionary court
- 31 order, the period of prohibition is for not less than three
- 32 years. For a mandatory court order, the period of prohibition
- 33 is not less than 10 years.
- 34 ANIMAL RESCUE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND
- 35 LOCAL ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER. The bill provides that a law

- 1 enforcement officer (e.g., county sheriff or deputy sheriff)
- 2 or an animal control officer is authorized to rescue an animal
- 3 from a motor vehicle based upon a reasonable belief that the
- 4 animal may be suffering distress. The officer or animal
- 5 control officer must provide a written notice of the rescue.
- 6 After the rescue, the animal must be maintained as a rescued
- 7 animal by the local authority until it is claimed or disposed
- 8 of pursuant to court order.